

Christmas Shoppers Offered a Few Tips

Christmas is coming! The geese are getting fat. Please put a penny in the old man's hat...

The traditional season of peace to all men of good will, unfortunately, is also the open season for a variety of Christmas racketeers, fakers, and chiselers if the usual after-Christmas complaints reported to the Better Business Bureau are criteria.

E. W. Cummings, BBB president, offers the following suggestions for happy Christmas shopping:

- Trade only with concerns known to be reliable or with those whose reputation can be established by intelligent inquiry.

- Unless there is a written or provable agreement otherwise, all sales are final—and the matter of a refund or exchange is dependent on the policy of the seller.

- Decide definitely what you want before you buy so as to avoid difficulty or delay in take-back, exchange, or refund.

- Buy with care—read labels—be sure of the correct size, color and other requirements. Keep your sales slips or receipts.

- It would be best to examine Christmas purchases before Christmas so that any claim for defect or damages may be made immediately rather than after Christmas.

- Don't expect that you can take back to a store after Christmas an article bought before Christmas and get full credit or refund for it if that article has already been marked down—unless the store wants to do so.

- Don't try to get cash refunds on Christmas gifts given to you. The fact that you don't like the gift or that you received two or more alike is no reason why any merchant should give you a refund.

- Don't contract to purchase anything beyond your capacity to pay.

- If you pay an advance deposit on the "lay away plan" or otherwise, be sure that you can and will go through with the deal—otherwise, you may sacrifice your deposit.

- Never let yourself be rushed into buying anything by high pressure sales talk; or claim that it is your last chance—take your time and make up your own mind carefully.

- Read all papers you are

- asked to sign and keep a copy. That's "bait" advertising.

- If you want delivery by Christmas, be sure you deal with concerns that have the facilities to fulfill their promises.

- If you find the article you receive is not as ordered, do not use it. Notify the seller immediately and give him an opportunity to adjust it.

- Don't buy from advertisers who attempt to discourage you from buying attractively advertised goods but who instead try to high pres-

- sure you into something else.

- If you do business by mail order—first make sure you are dealing with a reliable company; allow plenty of time for delivery and write very plainly—printing or typing is best.

- No one can continually sell retail at wholesale prices, so an appeal "buy wholesale" is generally bunk.

- Transient vendors, sidewalk hawkers and peddlers are not around after Christ-

- mas to listen to complaints.

- While this is the season of "giving," it is also advisable to be sure that when you give you are giving wisely. Be sure that your charity dollar goes to a legitimate charitable organization and not into the pockets of some fake promoter.

- During the next few weeks you are very likely to receive mailings of unordered merchandise, such as neckties, ball point pens, greeting cards, et cetera, all purported-

- ly for the benefit of some worthy cause. Unfortunately, all too often the principal beneficiary is the professional promoter handling the mailing. Remember, if you don't use it you don't have to pay for it.

- When you know about cases of false or misleading advertising or unfair schemes, report them to the Better Business Bureau. Your name will be held in confidence and your report will serve in the protection of others.

Garden Checklist

- Roses will continue to bloom if you water them well and keep the faded blooms pruned off.
- Poorly performing roses should be uprooted so you can prepare new soil before planting new varieties when they arrive at your nursery in December.
- Reseed bare patches in the lawn after first roughing the area well with a rake. If the bare spots are compacted, use a coring tool or turn the soil to break through.
- Remove fallen leaves and other debris from the garden. They serve as breeding places for garden pests and disease.
- Calla Lilies may be planted this month as can all spring-flowering bulbs.

SHOE MARKET

HOURS: Monday thru Saturday 9 to 9; Sunday 10 to 7

Petunia PINK
Square Toe, Bounty heel T-strap sandie. 583

Daisy YELLOW
Square toe, Hip-hee, Fiesta heel. Also in orange and green. 491

Poppy ORANGE
The Swinger yellow. 491. Also comes in

Shamrock GREEN
Popular cross-strap. Also comes in orange, cattail brown, yellow. 491

Cattail BROWN
Monk-strap. Also comes in orange and yellow. 491

Handwritten notes:
I LOVE PETUNIA PINK
ORANGE POPPY COLOR FOR ME... MAN!
GOOD LUCK SHAMROCK...
LOVE THAT GREEN!
MY FAVORITE BROWN IS CATTAIL BROWN!

Madonna Row Show Will Open

Madonna Row, an El Camino College Christmas tradition, will be on display in front of the Administration Building from Dec. 8 through Jan. 2. The collection features famed art pieces of Mother and Child as well as other master works of art dealing with the Nativity.

Introduced in 1949 by Miss Mildred Walker, EC art instructor, the lighted reproductions which are the work of Miss Walker's students, have become a traditional part of the El Camino Christmas Festival of Arts.

"The Nativity Scene" from the "Book of the Hours," a French 15th Century illuminated manuscript which now hangs in the Bibliotheque Mazarine in Paris, is of special interest this season.

In addition to the illuminated manuscript, the display includes a valuable stained glass window—a copy of an original from the cathedral of Chartres, France—several mosaics and a series of oil paintings of such artists as Raphael, Van Eyck and El Greco.



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